

School Committee Meeting Minutes  
Shirley Middle School  
August 30, 2004

Present: Gary Bourassa, Chairperson  
Hugh Muffoletto, Vice Chairperson  
Paul Wilson  
Bob Prescott (arrived at 7:45)

Also Present: Dr. Thomas Scott, Superintendent  
Patricia Stern, Business Manager

The meeting began at 7:43 p.m. The purpose of this meeting was to review preliminary budget reductions, in preparation for the Budget Deficit Committee meeting.

At the previous school committee meeting, Dr. Scott was asked to restore the Physical Education teacher and the SPED Director, as well as looking into supervisory cuts. With the current reductions to the school budget, Dr. Scott included the following for consideration:

- Eliminating the late bus, a savings of \$5800
- Eliminating athletic transportation, a savings of \$2900
- High School tuition reduction, due to fewer children attending AHS and LHS
- Eliminating an LAW SPED teacher
- Utilizing a TA in place of the Physical Education teacher
- Eliminating a SMS SPED teacher
- Eliminating the Custodial Supervisor position
- The remaining deficit of \$6900 would be offset by personnel changes and salary adjustments.

Total savings would be \$200,883.

With these savings, the school committee would need to approach the town for approximately \$6000 more than the \$215,000 target number the Town was previously willing to consider. The Town would fund the \$215,000, with one-time money due to the Town of Shirley, as their portion of the deficit.

Mr. Prescott asked how the children were to be transported to games without athletic transportation. Dr. Scott stated that revenue from gym rental fees from two local schools as well as money raised by the Boosters Club should be enough to cover the bus expenses.

Mr. Muffoletto questioned why there were no cuts in the administrative assistant department. Mrs. Stern reviewed the positions by stating how many were located in each school/department, their primary responsibilities as well as the hours and days per year worked by each. Both Mrs. Stern and Dr. Scott stated that with the added responsibilities of assuming the Custodial Supervisor and SPED Director positions, respectively, the administrative assistants have also been handed more responsibilities.

After lengthy discussions, Mr. Bourassa motioned to ask the Town for \$220,883. Mr. Prescott seconded the motion; the motion was approved.

Dr. Scott stated that he would be calling to rehire the Physical Education teacher the next morning. He would also be calling to let go the TA. Dr. Scott requested permission to interview a potential candidate for the SPED Director position. He also requested that the next School Committee meeting, scheduled for September 14, be rescheduled to Wednesday, September 15 as Mr. Parker would not be able to attend. The members agreed to meet on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Karen Gutheil